

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
REQUEST FOR FILING APPLICATION UNDER 37 CFR 1.53(b)  
WITHOUT FILING FEE OR EXECUTED INVENTOR'S OATH/DECLARATION

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Atty. Dkt. 1858-25

Sir:

Date: January 29, 2001

This is a request for filing a new PATENT APPLICATION under Rule 53(b) entitled:

**SELF-CROSS-LINKING ALKYL CELLULOSE DERIVATIVE, PRODUCTION PROCESS THEREFOR, AND USE THEREOF**

without a filing fee and/or without an executed inventor's oath/declaration.

This application is made by the below identified inventor(s). Attached hereto are the following papers:

- ☒ An abstract together with  
26 pages of specification and claims including  
14 numbered claims and also attached is/are  
6 sheets of accompanying drawings.  
☒ This application is based on the following prior foreign application(s):

**Application No.**

**Country**

**Filing Date**

Hei 11-177517

Japan

23 June 1999 (priority not claimed)

respectively, the entire content of which is hereby incorporated by reference in this application, and priority is hereby claimed therefrom.

- ☐ This application is based on the following prior provisional application(s):

**Application No.**

**Filing Date**

respectively, the entire content of which is hereby incorporated by reference in this application, and priority is hereby claimed therefrom.

- ☒ Preliminary amendment to claims (attached hereto), to be entered before calculation of the fee.  
☐ Also attached: ☐ Information Disclosure Statement; ☐ Non-Publication Request; ☐ Other:

1. Inventor: Fumio YOSHII Japan  
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2. Inventor: Tamikazu KUME Japan  
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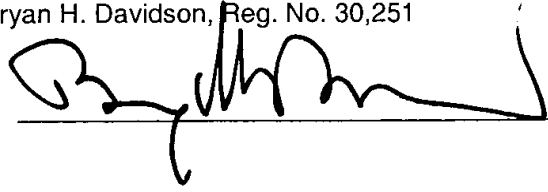
☒ See attached sheet(s) for additional inventor(s) information!!

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**NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.**

By Atty: Bryan H. Davidson, Reg. No. 30,251

Signature: 

3. Inventor: Tadashi MURAKAMI Japan  
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FILED